IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Marked up versions of the following claims showing the amendments thereto are attached as Exhibit B.

1. (Amended) A WDM comprising:

a structure extending longitudinally from one end to another for supporting components of the WDM;

at least two optical components supported at the one end of the structure for transmitting and receiving optical signals;

a diffraction grating supported at the other end of the structure for diffracting the optical signals from the optical components;

a lens assembly supported by the structure and disposed between the optical components and the diffraction grating, the lens assembly having a focal length for focusing the optical signals in relation to the optical components; and

wherein the coefficient of thermal expansion of the diffraction grating is a value chosen to be approximately equal to a negative of a change of index of refraction with temperature of air.

7. (Amended) The WDM of claim 1 wherein a coefficient of thermal expansion of the structure and the change in index of refraction with temperature of the lens assembly are values selected so that the length of the structure changes proportionally with the focal length of the lens assembly in response

to temperature changes in the structure and lens assembly, whereby the lens assembly remains substantially focused in relation to the optical components.

8. (Amended) An optical network having a wavelength division multiplexer/demultiplexer (WDM) comprising:

a structure extending longitudinally from one end to another for supporting components of the WDM;

at least two optical components supported at the one end of the structure for transmitting and receiving optical signals;

a diffraction grating supported at the other end of the structure for diffracting the optical signals from the optical components;

a lens assembly supported by the structure and disposed between the optical components and the diffraction grating, the lens assembly having a focal length for focusing the optical signals in relation to the optical components; and

wherein the coefficient of thermal expansion of the diffraction grating is a value chosen to be approximately equal to a negative of a change of index of refraction with temperature of air.

14. (Amended) The optical network of claim 8 wherein a coefficient of thermal expansion of the structure and the change in index of refraction with temperature of the lens assembly are values selected so that the length of the structure changes proportionally with the focal length of the lens